



London N. Breed
Mayor

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

June 28, 2023

Working at the intersection of health, safety, socioeconomics, politics and gender, the Department on the Status of Women has an expanded portfolio that prioritizes improving the whole lives of women, girls and nonbinary people through three core service areas: Health and Safety, Economic Security and Civic Engagement and Political Empowerment.

With a focus on its three core service areas, the Department seeks to rebuild itself as the City's Watch Dog and Accountability Partner on all issues related to gender parity; Chief Advocate for equity in service delivery, employment opportunities, leadership development and budget allocation; and Master Convener - bringing people together inside and outside the City to collaborate on ideas, strategy and impactful action to help San Francisco transform into a fully gender equitable City.

Reorganized and reimaged to meet this post-Roe moment, today's Department on the Status of Women is one that is human-centered, informed by data and infused with confidence, conviction and clarity of purpose.

The items below reflect the Department's work towards building a more diverse and efficient San Francisco City and County government through gender-responsive and racially equitable policies and programs.

I. **EXECUTIVE**

N/A

II. **ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS**

a. **Fiscal**

The Department presented the Mayor's proposed FY 23-25 budget to the Finance and Appropriations Committee during the first round of departmental presentations on June 15th. We provided insight into our total budget, how our budget allocations help achieve our mission and objectives, the performance measures that we use to determine whether we are achieving our goals, how we use our budget to address language access and poverty alleviation, our current organizational chart and a historic look at the changes to staffing over the past four years, and the budgetary and operational challenges that will result from the 10% and 13% reduction to the FY 23-24 and FY 24-25 budgets, respectively.

On June 22nd, the Department attended the second round of departmental hearings held by the Finance and Appropriations Committee, which focused on the recommendations from the Budget and Legislative Analyst (BLA). The BLA recommended a one-time reduction of \$100,000 in the City Grant Program budget in FY 23-24 and a reduction of \$10,000 in the Non-Personnel Services budget in both in FY 23-25.

b. **Grants Administration**

The Department's grant administration efforts have been primarily focused on FY23 closeout (expedited invoice process for April, May, and June 2023) as well as FY24 contract amendments.

The Department is researching options for improving invoice processes with the aim of expediting review and payment while reducing time and effort of both grantees and DOSW program staff.

The Department is reviewing and updating quarterly narrative report questions for grantees with the aim of providing more opportunity for grantees to share important progress updates that may get lost when statistical and demographic data is reported. Additional questions may be added surrounding: a risk register/log, capacity building needs, language access challenges, and more.

c. **New Hire**

The Department would like to welcome new hire Maja Marjanovic.

i. **Maja Marjanovic**

Maja is our new Director of Policy and Programs. She joins the Department after 8+ years of public service in Santa Clara County with the Office of Supervisor Cindy Chavez. There, Maja led, developed, and managed Supervisor Chavez's policy initiatives in the areas of gender-based violence prevention, equity and public safety and justice which lead to significant increases in public investments in the County-wide response and prevention of gender-based violence. She also led Supervisor Chavez's staff in managing and advancing of their assigned policy areas.

Prior to that Maja worked in Bosnia and Herzegovina with 2 UN agencies: UN Women, where she managed a Women, Peace and Security Program and UNDP where she managed the implementation of the public sector Strategic Planning & Policy Development Program.

Maja earned her Master's Degree in International Relations at the Fletcher School at Tufts University and her Bachelor's Degree in Communications Studies at Macalester College.

She currently lives in Oakland with her partner Roy and, on occasion, their dog nephew Ronnie.

III. **COMMISSION**

N/A

IV. **COMMUNICATIONS & EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

a. **Pride Month**

The Department continues to highlight queer women, especially queer women of color activists and leaders in San Francisco, as well as amplify events and activities that promote Pride and LGBTQIA+ rights. Director Ellis participated in an officiating ceremony during Pride Weekend, where she married couples at City Hall alongside other elected officials, department heads and members of the community to celebrate love in all its forms.

V. **PROGRAMS, POLICY & REPORTING**

a. **Strategic Initiatives**

Saturday, June 24, 2023, marked the one-year anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision on Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization that resulted in the loss of the constitutional right to abortion.

In response to this devastating anniversary, the Department in partnership with the San Francisco City Attorney's Office and Planned Parenthood Northern California, is hosting a convening tomorrow with stakeholders from the San Francisco Bay Area Abortion Rights Coalition. The purpose of the *(Re)Defining the Role of Local Government in the Post-Roe Legal Landscape* convening with local public sector leaders across the nine-county region is to:

1. Reaffirm our commitment to working in coordination
2. Receive an update on the current complex legal landscape
3. Review a possible framework for regional abortion care delivery

Guest speakers include:

- San Francisco City Attorney David Chiu
- Contra Costa District Attorney Diana Becton
- San Mateo County Board President Dave Pine
- Walnut Creek Councilman Kevin Wilk
- Alameda Health System Board President Kinkini Banerjee
- Contra Costa Deputy Public Health Officer Dr. Sara Levin
- Marin County Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Director Sandra Rosenblum
- Richmond Police Chief Bisa French
- Santa Clara County Assistant County Counsel Michaela Lozano Lewis

- Gender Equity Policy Institute President and Founder Dr. Nancy L. Cohen

b. **Health & Safety**

The Department supported a day of awareness and action to recognize Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women on June 2nd. The gathering was organized by community-based organization, Indigenous Justice, through a sole source grant. The event provided a safe space for indigenous leaders, families and the community to share about their lost loved ones and support each other through a prayer vigil, dancing, spoken word and music. Indigenous Justice was able to facilitate accommodations for up to 12 families traveling to attend the event at San Francisco's City Hall.

c. **Economic Security**

The Department is continuing its work with Indigenous Justice and Cameo House to implement a Guaranteed Income Pilot and Micro Grant program to support Indigenous domestic violence survivors and justice-impacted women. DOSW anticipates an official launch for these pilots later this Summer or early Fall.

d. **Civic Engagement & Political Empowerment**

N/A

a. **SF Bay Area SOL Collaborative**

The SF Bay Area SOL (Safety, Opportunity, and Lifelong Relationships) Collaborative continues to develop a continuum of care for youth involved in or at risk of commercial sexual exploitation.

The FAM (family & me) component of the project has started to enroll families into the program and had two informational sessions this past month. Additionally, the Department is coordinating with a cross-sector group to improve street outreach services to systems-involved youth experiencing homelessness and commercial sexual exploitation.

Finally, the Department introduced an anti-trafficking bill, AB 1740 (Sanchez) to the State Legislative Committee. This bill would require facilities providing pediatric services to post a notice on human trafficking and available resources in visible places near a public entrance. It would provide greater notice to trafficked minors accessing healthcare services.

b. **Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women Grant**

The Department is coordinating with the Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School and the District Attorney's office to publish and disseminate the Domestic Violence Death Review Team's (DVDRT's) Pilot Report, which will be released at the end of this month. The report is an interdepartmental review of a fatal domestic violence incident that took place in San Francisco and provides recommendations to strengthen system policies and procedures, as well as identifies prevention strategies to reduce future incidents of domestic violence-related injuries and deaths. The DVDRT Pilot was a collaboration between multiple departments and community-based advocates to evaluate and improve system responses. The report should serve as a foundation for the continued participation of City departments to engage, cooperate and hold each other accountable in reviewing coordinated community responses.

The Department is planning the second Quarterly Implementation Meeting of the year in June and continues to support Black Women Revolt Against Domestic Violence, La Casa de Las Madres and the Victim Services Division of the District Attorney's Office in their efforts to expand support services and coordinate data collection on the City-wide expansion of the high lethality assessment.

c. **Blue Shield Foundation Grant**

The HEALing Roots Collaborative is producing a podcast series that asks the question: what are the social and economic costs of domestic violence to the City and County of San Francisco? Through candid discussions with City departments and local community-based organizations who provide DV survivor facing services, the podcast hopes to highlight the issue of domestic violence in the LGBTQ+ community, the disparate economic and social effects on survivors of color and other relevant topics.

VI. **RESEARCH & DATA/ PROJECTS, STRATEGIC LEARNING & CAPACITY BUILDING**

a. **Research & Data**

This month, the Department has continued to work on rolling out our new grantee reporting system, Envisio. Once implemented the Envisio system will help the Department administer the quarterly reports it receives from grantees, as well as improve our ability to use the data in these reports. The Department has recently finished building out the data infrastructure in the Envisio system and fully integrated our grantees. The new reporting system is currently planned to be rolled out during Q1 of Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

The Department will also be completing its data inventory for DataSF this month. This mandatory report helps both the Department and DataSf ensure

that publicly relevant datasets are easily available to the public through the DataSF online portal.

Lastly, the Department has continued progress on its Community Needs Assessment and the 2023 Gender Analysis of Commissions and Boards report this month.

VII. **GENERAL UPDATES**

N/A

VIII. **SPECIAL EVENTS, ACTIVITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. The Department, in partnership with Asian Women's Shelter, Black Women Revolt Against Domestic Violence, the Office of Transgender Initiatives, and the Human Rights Commission, hosted a solidarity dinner entitled Asian & Black Pride: Building Community Solidarity One Meal at a Time.

In the midst of our ongoing nationwide racial reckoning around anti-Blackness, the rise in Asian hate, and the current slew of homophobic, anti-trans laws sweeping the country, this dinner was timely as its primary purpose was to bring together people from all walks of life within communities that have historically been pitted against each other, oftentimes resulting in misunderstanding, mistrust and fear. The event included marginalized and underrepresented communities as well, including trans and nonbinary people. A five-course fusion meal that blended hearts, minds, souls and cultures, this dinner was curated by San Francisco-based culinary masters - Chef Eva Morris and Chef Monica Lee.

Some highlights of the event included:

- A beautiful welcome in Mandarin by graduating high school Senior, Kennedy Holloway
 - Robust and thought-provoking conversations around race relations and healing
 - Delicious fusion meals where the East met the South to blend cultures, histories and futures
- b. Looking forward, Saturday, June 24 will mark the one-year anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision on Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization that resulted in the loss of the constitutional right to abortion. In response to this devastating anniversary, the Department in partnership with the San Francisco City Attorney's Office and Planned Parenthood Northern California will convene local government administrative stakeholders from BAARC to reaffirm our commitment to working in coordination, provide an update on the

current complex legal landscape and present a possible framework for regional abortion care delivery.

IX. **CALENDAR**

June

Wednesday, June 28

Commission Meeting

Thursday, June 29

BAARC Convening

July

Tuesday, July 4

Holiday: Independence Day

Wednesday, July 26

Commission Meeting